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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

W. A. MATTHEWS, PRINTER, SHEPLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

SHEPLEY URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1937.

To the Shepley Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1937—

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA—1,247 acres.

POPULATION—The Registrar-General's estimate of resident population for 1937, is 1,572.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES according to the Rate Book at the end of 1937 was 526.

THE RATEABLE VALUE OF THE DISTRICT is £7,728, and the sum represented by a Penny Rate is £29/14/11.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS—The area is situated in the midst of the woollen manufacturing districts, and most of the inhabitants are employed in the mills. There are several stone quarries, which give employment to a certain number of the male population, and others are employed in the collieries which are situated in adjoining districts. There is also a large brewery in which many are employed in various capacities. There is also a small amount of farming done, but the farms are not of great extent.

Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	...	16	11	5
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	...	1	—	1
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—

This gives a birth rate of approximately 10·8 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The birth rate for England and Wales is 14·9 per 1,000 population.

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	25	9	16

This gives a death rate of approximately 15·7 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The death rate for England and Wales is 12·4 per 1,000 population.

There were no deaths from diseases or accidents of childbirths and pregnancy.

There were no deaths from measles, whooping cough or diarrhœa (under two years of age). There was one death under one year of age.

The following table gives the causes of death and the ages of all those belonging to the district—

Cause of Death.	All Ages	under 1 year	2 to 10	11 to 25	26 to 45	46 to 65	over 65
Digestive Disturbances ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1
Heart Disease ...	8	...	...	...	...	1	7
Bronchitis ...	3	...	...	...	...	2	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	5	...	...	...	...	4	1
Violence ...	3	...	...	...	1	...	2
Prematurity ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Senility	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	25	1	...	...	3	7	14

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(*a*) *Medical*—The Medical Officer of Health who is a part-time Official. The Medical Officer also carries out the duties of District Medical Officer under the Public Assistance Committee and Public Vaccinator.

(*b*) *Others*—The Sanitary Inspector, who holds the appointment for four other districts combined for sanitary purposes He holds the following certificates—

1 Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances.

2 Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Summary of Visits and Inspections.

Investigation of complaints	24
Property under notice	24
Work in progress	27
Premises in course of erection	19
Disinfecting and enquiries after infectious disease	17
Factories and workshops (including bakehouses) ...	4
Slaughterhouse	39
Cowsheds	44
Van dwellings	20
Measuring houses etc. under overcrowding survey	61
Shops under Shops Act, sections 10 and 13 ...	2
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	3
Interviews with Owners	15
Miscellaneous premises	26
	325

Defects and Nuisances found (affecting 18 premises)

Drains choked	2
Untrapped drain	1
Waste pipe defective	1
Privy closets requiring conversion	5
Lack of closet accommodation at a shop ...	1
Ashbin required	1
Roofing defective	1
Offensive accumulations	2
Nuisance from keeping of animals	1
Cowsheds with dirty floors	2
Cowshed with defective floor	1
	18

Of these defects, 17 were remedied and also 11 defects outstanding from previous years.

In one case summary proceedings were taken in order to secure the abatement of a nuisance arising from the keeping of animals.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—Over 64% of the houses have now the water carriage system installed. About 108 privies and 3 pail closets are at premises where sewers or water supply are not available or suitable for the installation of the water-carriage system.

Details of the accommodation are contained in the following summary :—

	No. of premises	No. of W.C's	No. of privies	No. of Pail closets
Houses on W.C. system ...	294	280	—	—
,, ,, W.C. and Privy system ...	56	56	54	—
,, ,, Privy system ...	187	—	146	—
,, ,, Pail system ...	3	—	—	2
Factories and Workshops	18	32	16	13
Day School	1	20	—	—
Shops, Clubs, Offices, Chapels	12	13	6	1
Totals	571	401	222	16

SCAVENGING—This work is under the control of the Surveyor and is carried out by the Council's workmen and hired team labour.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928. There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

MILK SUPPLY—The bulk of the supply is produced within the area. There are still only two producers of Designated milk. Generally the cowsheds have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The sampling of designated milk is carried out by the County Authorities.

Veterinary examination of the cows has been carried out on three occasions by a County Council's Veterinary Officer. Only one cow was dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order. This cow was notified by the owner.

MEAT INSPECTION—This is carried out whenever possible at the time of slaughter. The bulk of supply is from animals slaughtered in the district. The premises where "made up" foods are prepared are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.—The number of licenced slaughtermen is six. Sheep are included as animals to which section 1 applies with respect to the use of a mechanically operated stunning instrument. No contraventions of the Act have been found.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.—Admistration is carried out by the County Food and Drugs Officer and the following particulars have been supplied by him of samples taken for analysis—Milk 6, Other Foods 1. No cautions or prosecutions were necessary.

WATER SUPPLY—The principal supply is from the Huddersfield Corporation's mains but about 40 houses in the higher part of the Township above the scope of this system are served by a piped supply from a private undertaking owned by a local Brewery Company. About 14 houses have private piped supplies and 16 houses are served by private and public wells.

HOUSING ACT, 1936 (OVERCROWDING PROVISIONS).—It is a requirement of the Act that every rent book or similar document used in relation to a working class dwelling-house by or on behalf of the landlord thereof shall contain a "summary" in the prescribed form of sections 58, 59 and 61, of the Act and a statement of the "permitted number" of persons in relation to the house. It is the duty of the Local Authority upon the application of the landlord or occupier of a dwelling-house, to supply a written Statement of the "permitted number" in relation to the house. The work of measuring up the houses in order to supply this information is still proceeding.

The "appointed day" for the commencement of these provisions was fixed in this area for the 1st July. 1936, requiring the entries in the rent books to be made by the 1st Jan. 1937.

Further details relating to the sanitary administration of the area are contained in Tables "C" and "D"

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. GREENWOOD, Sanitary Inspector.

Joint Sanitary Inspector to the Denby and Cumberworth, Skelmanthorpe, Shepley, Clayton West and Shelley Urban District Councils.

Telephone. Kirkburton 126 [at residence Hall Syke, Shepley].

Table "D" 1937.

Housing Statistics.

1 *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)—8.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose—29.

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations—8.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose—29.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses needing further action—8.

(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—5.

(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—3.

2 *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers—0.

3 *Action under Statutory Powers during the year—*

A—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—0.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners—0.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners—0.

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —0.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners—0.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners—0.

C—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation—5.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—0.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—0.

D—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made—0.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit—0.

4 *Unhealthy Areas*—

Have any areas been declared Clearance Areas during the year 1937 ?—No.

5 *Number of new houses erected during 1937*—

(a) By the Local Authority—0.

(b) By private enterprise—12. Total 12.

6 *Housing Conditions*—

(1) Total number of houses in the District—540.

(2) Number of working-class houses included in the above —485.

(3) General observations as to housing conditions, overcrowding, and shortage of houses—The general standard is good. There is no overcrowding and no serious shortage of houses.

(4) Any special activity in house building ?—No.

(5) Any housing scheme projected by Local Authority ?—No.

(6) Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 ?—No.

7 *Town Planning—*

(1) Is the Council a member of any Regional Town Planning Committee ?—No.

(2) Is a Town Planning Scheme in force for

(a) The whole of the District—No.

(b) Part of the District—No.

(3) Have Council during 1937 passed a Resolution deciding to prepare a Town Planning Scheme ?—No.

8 *Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations—* Frederick Greenwood, Sanitary Inspector, Council Room, Shepley, Nr. Huddersfield.

9 Has any action been taken to improve the housing conditions of tuberculous families in your District, either by way of building new or special houses, or the granting of special facilities for such families to be housed ?—No.

10 *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding—*

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year—0.

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year—0.

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year—3.

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases—21.

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding—Nil.

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report—No.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

General—There have been no serious epidemics during the year.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1937—

Disease	Total Cases	2 to 10	11 to 25	26 to 45	46 to 65	Over 65	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	11	6	5	...	...	...	11	...
Diptheria	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Pneumonia	5	...	...	2	2	1	...	1
Total	18	8	5	2	2	1	13	1

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been necessary under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Tuberculosis.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
25 to 45 yrs.	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
55 to 65 yrs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

General Remarks.

The year under review has been healthy, and there are no matters requiring special mention.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MICHAEL MOORHOUSE DEY.

Table "C" 1937.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total number of Inspections made in 1937, for Nuisances only—325. (For Housing Inspections see Table D).

Nuisances found in 1937—17. Nuisances in hand, end of 1936—29.

Total needing abatement—46. Abated during 1937—28. Outstanding end of 1937—18.

Notices served, Informal, 5. Complied with 4.
,, ,, Statutory 1. ,, ,, 0.

Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedings—1.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.

None in the District.

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades ?—No.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Particulars of sewer extensions during 1937—Nil.

Details of any portion of district still requiring—

(a) Sewering—part of Knowle Road.

(b) Improvement of defective sewers—Nil.

Number of houses not connected to sewers—47.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Particulars of any extensions made during 1937—Nil.

Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works ?—No.

Any complaint from West Riding Rivers Board ?—No.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Privies with open middens—1.

Number of Pail or Tub Closets—16.

Number of Privies with covered middens—221.

Number of Water Closets—398. Waste-water Closets—0.

Number of Privies re-constructed during 1937—
(a) W.C's—5. (b) other—0.

Number of Closets, other than Privies, reconstructed during 1937 as W.C's—0.

Number of *additional* Closets provided for old property in 1937—(a) W.C's—3. (b) other—0.

Number of Closets constructed in 1937 for new houses—
(a) W.C's—12. (b) other—0.

Any special action being taken by Council to secure conversion of privies, waste water closets and pails to W.C. System. If so what ?—A grant is made towards the cost.

SCAVENGING.

Is public scavenging in operation throughout the whole district ?—Yes.

How is refuse disposed of ?—(1) Distruction—No. (2) Tipping—100%. (3) Farmers—No.

Is tipping on the controlled system ?—No.

Total annual cost of collection and disposal of refuse—£174

WATER SUPPLY.

Source of Supply—(1)—The Huddersfield Corporation. (2)—Messrs. S. Senior & Sons, Ltd. private waterworks. (3)—Public and private wells and springs.

By whom distributed ?—The Huddersfield Corporation and Messrs. S. Senior & Sons, Ltd.

Number of houses on public supply—493.

Any extension of supply during the year ?—No.

Has supply been satisfactory in quality and quantity?—Yes.

Any examination made during the year ?—No.

Have any supplies been restricted or closed ?—No.

MILK SUPPLY.

Are Two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922 ?

(a) For Retailers—Yes.

(b) For Cowkeepers or Wholesale Traders—Yes.

Have any retailers been removed from the Register ?—No.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER 1936.

Number of Licences in force in area for—

(a) Production of " Tuberculin Tested " Milk—0.

(b) Production of " Accredited " Milk—2,

(c) In respect of Pasteurising plants—0.

Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically—0.

Number of Milk samples taken by Officers of local authority for analysis under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928—0.

Number of samples of ordinary milk taken by Officers of local authority for—(a) Methylene blue test—0. (b) Presence of tuberculosis—0.

Any special examination of milk for dirt, *e g.*, sedimentation test ?—No.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk during 1937 ? No.

Number of cowkeepers in district—15. Registered—15.

Total No. of cowsheds—20. Total No. of milk cows—185.

Total number of Cowsheds inspected during the year—20.

Total number of cowshed inspections—44.

Number of wholesale traders registered—1.

Number of retail milk sellers registered—16.

Observations as to structural conditions, cleanliness and methods of production and handling of milk—Generally structural conditions are fair and methods are fairly good. There is some lack of proper dairy accommodation.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Any public abattoir in district ?—No.

Total number of private slaughterhouses—1. Licensed—1.

Number unsatisfactory either as regards structure, position or in other respects—0.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

Number Inspected—Cattle (excluding cows) 76 ; Cows 3 ; Calves 0 ; Sheep and Lambs 141 ; Pigs 128. None were entirely condemned. There were two cases where part of the carcases of cattle and six cases where part of the carcases of pigs was condemned.

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis—Nil.

Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis —Cattle (excluding cows)—2.6%. Pigs 4.6%.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1934.

Meat Marking : Is scheme in force under above ? No.

OTHER FOODS.

Number of samples (other than milk) taken by Officrs of L.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928—None.

Number of Bakehouses in district—2. Total Inspections—2

Are any of the bakehouses underground ?—No.

SCHOOLS.

Statutory Medical Inspection is carried out by the County Education Authority in most of the Districts but that does not relieve the M.O.H. of his duties in regard to sanitation and the prevention of infectious outbreaks in connection with Schools.

Number of Schools in District—1.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of smoke observations each of 30 minutes duration taken during 1937—None.

SHOPS ACT 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3)

Number of visits paid under the above Act during 1937—2.

Unsatisfactory conditions found—1. Remedied—1.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, etc.

Number in District—0.

Is this class of dwelling showing signs of increase ?—No.

Have Council made bye-laws under Section 268 (4), Public Health Act, 1936 ?—No.

Any action under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936—No.

Has any trouble been experienced in controlling this type of dwelling ?—No.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council houses found to be infested—0.

Other houses found to be infested—0.

What methods are employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs ?—fumigation with a proprietary fumigant or by spraying.

What methods are employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses ?—No action has been necessary.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are none in the District.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—Part 3.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907—sections 25, 33, 39, 40, 42, 58, 68, Part VI, and section 95.

Public Health Act, 1925—Parts II, III, IV, except sections 21, 22, and 44.

Subject as from 1st October 1937. to the amendment and repeal of certain provisions by the Public Health Act, 1936.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS in force in District—

Subject.	Date of Approval
New Streets and Buildings and Alterations of Buildings	1925
Prevention of Nuisances	1908
Common Lodging Houses	1907
Tents, Vans, Sheds	1907
Slaughterhouses	1907
Offensive Trades	1907
Pleasure Ground	1908

INFANT MORTALITY.

Any suggestions ?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1937 ?—None.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diseases specially prevalent in 1937—None.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list ?—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District ?—No.

Any arrangements for nursing Puerperal Fever cases ? (for areas autonomous under the M. & C.W. Act, 1918)—
At Home—No. In Hospital—No.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

General Infectious Diseases—

Address of Hospital—Kirkburton Joint Isolation Hospital.

Any change or extension in 1937—No.

Any disease in addition to scarlet fever, enteric fever or diphtheria (*e.g.* pneumonia) treated in infectious diseases hospital—No.

Name of Authority controlling—Kirkburton Joint Isolation Hospitals Committee.

Smallpox—

Address of Hospital—Jagger Hill, Kirkburton.

Any change or extension in 1937—No.

Name of Authority Controlling—Kirkburton Joint Isolation Hospitals Committee.

GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS.

(a) General and Accident—Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.
Children's " " "

(b) Local: Hospital, Cottage—Nil.

(c) Maternity (Homes)—Nil.

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

For General Sick and Accident Cases—

Location of Ambulance—Kirkburton.

Ownership—Messrs. Hepworth Bros.

Type of Ambulance—Motor.

Arrangements for Nurse to accompany patient—None.

Charge to patients in district—9d. per running mile.

For General Infectious Disease Cases and Smallpox—

Location of Ambulance—Hospital.

Ownership—Hospital Committee.

Type of Ambulance—Motor.

Arrangements for Nurse to accompany patient—Hospital [Nurse.

Charge to patients in district—Nil.

If ambulance of another Authority is used, state terms and conditions—The privately owned ambulance used for general sick and accident cases is subsidised by a group of local authorities. The owners of the ambulance collect the charges.

MORTUARIES. What accommodation—

(a) for accidents—none.

(b) for infectious cases other than at hospital—none.

(c) for other cases—none.

(d) for post mortem examinations—none.

BACTERIOLOGY (County Laboratory).

Any suggestions—No.

BURNING SPOIL BANKS.

Any nuisance therefrom ?—No.

SANITARY STAFF.

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.—£20 per annum.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Fredk. Greenwood.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£61 5s.

Other appointments held—Sanitary Inspector for four neighbouring districts.

Salary for such other appointments—£263 5s.

Any Assistants ?—No. Is Staff sufficient ?—Yes.

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars Distributed by Ministry of Health ?—Yes.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS—

No.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H. and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries. Any suggestions as to need for County Clinics or Dispensaries, or as to existing Clinics or Dispensaries—

None.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Factories (including Factory Laundries)—

Number of Inspections—1.

Number of Written Notices—0.

Number of Occupiers prosecuted—0.

Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)—

Number of Inspections—3.

Number of Written Notices—0.

Number of Occupiers prosecuted—0.

Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)—

Number of Inspections—0.

Number of Written Notices—0.

Number of Occupiers prosecuted—0.

Total number of Inspections—4.

Total number of Written Notices—0.

Total number of Occupiers prosecuted—0.

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

Number of Defects found—0.

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—

Number of Defects found—0.